

JULY 2014



**DAV DOUG HERRLE CHAPTER & UNIT 61
SEGUIN, GUADALUPE COUNTY, TEXAS
From the Senior Vice Commander
Aug 2014**

Hello Comrades,

Well, half of 2014 has come and gone already. It was a busy and productive first half of 2014 for us. We're already into the second half of 2014 with a lot of projects and activities on the horizon. Here are some of the major activities to start thinking about and marking on your calendar.

September 19th-We will participate in a POW-MIA program at the Geronimo VFW. More details at September meeting.

October 4th & 5th - Forget-Me-Not fundraiser at our local Wal-Mart. Our next monthly meeting is September 9th and we'll be passing around the sign-up sheet at that time. We'll have more details on times then.

November is going to be a very busy month.

November 1st through 11th fundraiser at Golden Corral in New Braunfels. This will be our 3rd year so most of us are familiar with it. We'll need plenty of volunteers for this one since it is 11 days in length.

November 11th-Veterans Day activities starting at 11 AM in downtown Seguin. We'll end the day at the Golden Corral in New Braunfels with a meal provided for veterans and the Honor Guard will put on a program for the Golden Corral customers at about 6 PM.

November 22nd- TLU will sponsor the 2nd Annual DAV Dash 5K Fun Run. All proceeds go to DAV, Chapter 61.

December 9th will be our Chapter 61 Christmas Party. It will be at Geronimo VFW again this year. We are going to put together a raffle with the drawing at the Christmas Party. So if you have or can obtain any raffle items to donate please bring it to Terri at the chapter house.

Thank everyone for their past support of our fundraisers. Remember, our chapter 61 fundraisers can only be successful, if our members are there to help.

God Bless everyone and "Thank You For Your Service".

Gary Elley

Doug Herrle Chapter 61
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

DAVA COOKBOOKS NOW ON SALE

This is a fundraiser to benefit our DAVA Departmental (State) treasury. Each book costs \$15 and contains more than 300 recipes contributed by DAVA members, families and friends. We have a small supply of them at our Chapter House office. Once we sell these, we can get more until we sell all of them. Exact amount in cash, \$15, or a check made out to DAVA Unit 61 will be appreciated.

Our unit meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 PM at the Chapter House. This is the same time and place that our Chapter meets.

Upcoming Events

- 6 Sep. 2014 – BBQ Cook-Off, New Braunfels VFW
- 19 Sep. 2014, 6 PM – POW/MIA at Geronimo VFW
- 11 Oct. 2014 – Indian Pow Wow, San Marcos
- 11 Nov. 2014, 11 AM – Veteran’s Day
- 1-11 Nov. 2014 – Golden Corral
- 9 Dec. 2014 – Christmas Party

Our New Members

- Robert Blanchard-Gonzales
- Eddy C Care-Seguin
- Robert E Covington-Seguin
- Roy A Hall-Seguin
- Tony D Lobello-San Antonio
- Danica Vessels-New Braunfels

Our Transferred Members

None

The Chapter 61 Staff.

Chapter Officers:

Commander	Phil Sierer
SV Commander	Gary Elley
JV Commander	JJ Chapa
Treasurer	Bella Wiatrek
Chaplain	Richard Cusson
Adjutant	Marlin Howze
SAA	Leon Garcia
Honor Guard	Juan DeLeon
Service Officer	Marlin Howze

Unit Officers:

Commander	Lynette Sierer
SV Commander	Leigh Harrelson
JV Commander	Joyce Farr
Treasurer/Adj	Terri Herrle
Chaplain	Jeanne Garriott
SEC	Terri Herrle
Alt SEC	Jeanne Garriott

This Newsletter is Edited and Published by DAV Chapter 61

PO Box 325, Seguin, TX 78156
We are located at 425 Vaughn Street, Seguin, TX. 78155 or call 830-379-3299

Service Hours: 9am to 1pm
Tuesday & Wednesday

Monthly Business Meeting:
2nd Tuesday of the Month

PTSD Groups:
Every Tuesday, 12 am-1pm and 1:30-2:30pm

VCZ: Tue-Wed, 9am-3pm

Seeking Safety: Wed. 7:30pm-9pm

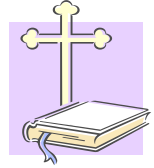
For the most up to date news, please visit our web site at

<http://www.davmembersportal.org/chapters/tx/61>.

You may Bookmark the site and refer often to see what’s happening.

Thoughts from the Chaplain

Then Peter, turning around, saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following. . . .Peter, seeing him, said to Jesus, "But Lord, what about this man?" John 21:20-21



The first thing you do after God speaks to you is critical. Jesus was telling Peter what type of ministry he would have and what type of death he would suffer (vv. 18-19). It was a sacred moment in Peter's life, as his Lord pulled back the curtain to his future. His was not to be an easy life but a life ordained and blessed by his Lord and Master.

Rather than responding to what Jesus told him, Peter looked around at his fellow disciples. His glance fell upon John, the disciple whom Jesus loved. "But Lord, what about *this* man?" Peter asked. Peter had just been given the somber news of his future death. How natural to compare his assignment with that of the others! This is the great temptation of God's servants: to compare our situation with that of others. Did God give my friend a larger house? Did God heal my friend's loved one and not mine? Did God allow my friend to receive appreciation and praise for his work while I remain anonymous? Did God allow another Christian to remain close to her family while I am far removed from mine?

Jesus assigned Peter and John to walk two different paths, but both Peter and John have enriched our lives. Jesus knew how dangerous it is when a servant takes his eyes off the master to focus on a fellow servant. Where is your focus? Have you become more concerned with how God is treating someone else than you are with how He is relating to you?

As your Chaplain, I am available to all members of Doug Herrle Chapter #61 and their immediate family for discussion of any spiritual matter or counseling. Please feel free to contact me at 4Verterans@hotmail.com or by calling me at (830) 491-8009.

May God's peace and blessing be with all of you.
Chaplain Richard Cusson

Binnacle List

- ❖ Comrades Charles Franz and Hugh Zaeske passed away.
- ❖ Comrade Richard Little is recovering from surgery.
- ❖ Commander's Phil and Lynette have upcoming surgeries.

Keep these veterans and their families in your prayers.

Reminder

Bible Study is offered at the Chapter House every Wednesday afternoon from 1:30 PM usually finishing up by 3 pm. We have open and engaging discussions while we explore the Word of our Lord and find what he has to offer us. Come, join us. We are currently studying Ephesians.

DAV Meeting Minutes

Doug Herrle, TX Chapter 61

DATE: 08/12/2014

TIME: 7PM

Chapter House, 425 Vaughan St., Seguin TX 78155

CALL TO ORDER:

Prayer by Chaplain Richard Cusson

Flag Honors: Y

Joint Meeting Chapter and Unit

- ❖ Proposal to donate to the School Newspaper Program. **Comrade Cusson motions for \$150 to the Newspaper Program, 2nd by Comrade Garcia, motion carries.** Aux to split cost.
- ❖ Fish fry courtesy of Comrade Basil Karm's friend Dan. Tomorrow night at 6 PM. Auxiliary to provide sides and desserts.
- ❖ Comrade Gary Elley brought up an idea to commission some awards for Texas Lutheran University, Renee Sandoval and the S&S crew, Fire & Iron Motorcycle Club, and the Liberators Motorcycle club for the recent donations and services they have provided. **Comrade Jimmy Dickerson motions for \$160 to be used for purchase of awards. 2nd by Comrade Frank Rosario, motion carries.**
- ❖ Pablo Garcia and several members of our PTSD Workshop crew put on a very nice BBQ lunch this afternoon. Very much appreciated.
- ❖ Our Comrade John Deleon has had to undergo surgery and is being laid up for a while. **Comrade Leon Garcia motions for \$200 for medical travel expenses, 2nd by Comrade Frank Rosario, motion carries.**
- ❖ SV Commander Gary Elley designed and built a beautiful cabinet to display our Texas POW/MIA Service ID tags that the duplicates were sent to Washington DC. A binder is included with histories of each of the Missing Servicemen as well as ID plates under the hanging tags identifying the servicemen and some pertinent info. Very nice. Chaplain Cusson blessed the families of the missing men.
- ❖ Auxiliary retires.

Roll call of officers by Marlin Howze, Adjutant

Commander:	Present	Absent X
Sr. Vice Commander:	Present X	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander:	Present X	Absent
Treasurer:	Present	Absent X (excused)
Chaplain:	Present X	Absent
Adjutant:	Present X	Absent
SAA:	Present	Absent X (excused)

Total officers & members present: 17 (Sign in sheet available)

Chapter had a quorum: Yes

Seven (7) Members shall constitute a quorum. 2 members present shall be elected officers.

Guests: None

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Names of New Members: Robert Blanchard-Gonzales, Eddy C Care-Seguín, Robert E Covington-Seguín, Roy A Hall-Seguín, Tony D Lobello-San Antonio, Danica Vessels-New Braunfels.

Names of Transferred Members: None

(New members and those who have not been previously initiated must be initiated at their 1st meeting and their names recorded in minutes.)

Members Receiving Oath: None

Welcome to all our new members.

READING OF THE MINUTES: Stand as posted. (The commander asks if there are corrections to minutes. Hearing none he/she would declare the minutes are approved as read or posted. If there are corrections, the minutes would be adopted as amended by unit vote.)

Minutes are posted on Chapter Website, bulletin board, and emailed via Newsletter.

TREASURER'S REPORT: From July 01 to 31, 2014.

Beginning: \$?????. Ending: \$25,371.99.

Full report and statements read aloud and are available on request.

Motion to accept: Comrade Frank Rosario, 2nd: Comrade Leon Garcia, motion carries.

BILLS AND COMMUNICATIONS: (see list in file)

- ❖ Ltr fm Nat'l HQ-Mbrshp rpt, ltr fm Nat'l HQ-Finance report tickler, ltr fm DAV Dept of TX-Chg to Dept Const & Bylaws, ltr fm Nat'l HQ-mbrshp rpt, email fm COA/VOA-donation request.

SICKNESS & DISTRESS:

- ❖ Comrades Charles Franz and Hugh Zaeske passed away, Comrade Richard Little is recovering fm surgery, Commander's Phil and Lynette have upcoming surgeries. Please keep our Comrades and their families in your prayers.

LEGISLATION

New Secretary of the Department of VA: Robert McDonald, former Army Captain and Ranger, and former Proctor & Gamble chief executive

In July Congress cleared and the President signed the *VA Access, Choice and Accountability Act of 2014*. The bill, H.R. 3230, provides \$17 billion to allow veterans to seek care outside of VA if they have to wait more than 30 days to get an appointment or live 40 miles from a VA facility. It also funds increases in VA staff and new tuition grants for veterans and their some spouses.

Bill, H.R. 5059 under consideration to support legislation aimed at suicide prevention and mental health access within VA and DOD. Named in honor of Clay Hunt, a Marine from Texas who served in Iraq and Afghanistan and became active in the veterans' community after leaving the military. After years of battling PTSD, Clay tragically took his own life in 2011

The House VA Committee heard many stories from several VA employees who had filed whistleblower retaliation complaints against the VA. According to the Ofc of Special Counsel—currently has 67 active investigations and 25 new whistleblower retaliation cases from VA employees since June 1, 2014.

The Army is still working to reduce the active duty force down from 570,000 members to 490,000 by 2015. (-80,000)

During the month of August, most elected officials return to their home districts. We encourage you to visit your legislators' local offices. Educate them on your key concerns.

The Senate Appropriations Committee approved a fiscal 2015 defense money bill that fully supports the Senate Armed Services Committee's rejection of the proposal to [consolidate TRICARE plans](#) and raise fees.

MIAs identified

- ❖ **USMC Pfc. Randolph Allen**, F, 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marine Div, lost on Nov. 20, 1943, in Tarawa.
- ❖ **Army Air Force Staff Sgt. Gerald V. Atkinson**, 303rd Bomb Group, Eighth AF, lost on April 10, 1945, north of Berlin.

- ❖ **Army Air Force Staff Sgts. Robert E. Howard**, 21, of Moravia, Iowa, and **David R. Kittredge**, 22, of Oneida, Wis., lost April 16, 1945, Their B-26B was shot down while on a bombing raid in Germany.
- ❖ **Army MSG. Lawrence O. Jock**, 955th Field Artillery, 8th U.S. Army, was lost July 14, 1953, in North Korea. He was buried in Malone, N.Y.
- ❖ **Army Air Forces 1st Lts. William D. Bernier and Bryant E. Poulsen**, , 90th Bombardment Group, 5th Army AF, were lost April 10, 1944, in Papua New Guinea.
- ❖ **Army Cpl. Alva C. Groves**, 18, of Four States, W.Va., In November 1950, Groves, 1st Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division, was lost when Chinese forces attacked his unit in North Korea.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

- ❖ Membership: 6 new members.
- ❖ CSO: (Full report available)
 - Service Ofcrs. Jul 2014: Tot Vets Seen 82, Tot Hrs Used 123, Tot Hrs Avail 378.
 - Chaplain Hours: Jul 2014: 25 hrs.
 - Honor Guard Hours: Jun 182 hrs. 2 funerals, (Full details in report files)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- ❖ See Joint for other Old Business.
- ❖ Naming of the Walnut Creek Park Project. Tabled til more info obtained.
- ❖ Veteran's Day planning is underway. Nov 11 at Central Park. Will be a parade this year, so we'll need plenty volunteers. Please put it on your calendar.
- ❖ Golden Corral will probably be Nov 1-11 as last year. Volunteers needed here too.
- ❖ DAV will be represented at the local IBCA Cook-off event to be held at the New Braunfels VFW Sept 6th. Turn out to support our team.
- ❖ Chapter 61's Honor Guard has once again been invited to carry flags for opening ceremonies at the Native American POW WOW to be held at San Marcos on Oct 11th. Really nice last year and an honor to be invited (again). Comrade Juan Deleon will bring more info as it comes available.

NEW BUSINESS:

- ❖ Comrade Richard Cusson has been accepted in a ministerial position with CRU Military Christian services for curing PTSD through spiritual alternatives. He will be going through training soon and will be bringing this option back to the Chapter. Training is in Florida and is going to be a cost factor for him and he requests help from the Chapter to help. **Motion by Comrade Linda Truax to donate \$300 for Cusson's expenses for training," 2nd by Comrade Frank Rosario, motion carries. Comrade Juan Deleon motions to donate \$200 in support from the Honor Guard fund, 2nd by Comrade Mike Fore, motion carries.**
- ❖ **Comrade Leon Garcia motions a \$200 donation to the Veteran's Outdoor Alliance, 2nd by Comrade Jimmy Dickerson, motion carries.**
- ❖ Commander Sierer stands up a committee for the review of Chapter 61's Constitution and Bylaws. Comrade Warren Walls is assigned Committee Chairman, Comrade's Linda Truax, and Frank Rosario join Wall's on the committee.

GOOD of the ORDER

Moment of Silence. Remembrance of fallen comrades.

Motion for Adjournment:

Motion by Comrade Leon Garcia, 2nd by Comrade Mike Fore, carried.

**CLOSING CEREMONY: __x__ Salute __x__ Closing Prayer by Chaplain Cusson
Next meeting will be 7 PM, on Sep 9th, 2014.**